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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)/China/Satellites

DATE DISTR. 22 April 1952

SUBJECT The Synthetic Graphite Plant Lichtenberg
(SAG Kabel)

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

CIRCULATE

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(Sovzone, Berlin) *AK*

1. The DDR synthetic graphite works, Lichtenberg (Kabel) (formerly Siemens)(1) is currently engaged in exporting between 300 to 400 tons monthly of synthetic electrographite to China via Stettin and Danzig.
2. The monthly production is at present about 800 tons, but it is anticipated that after the beginning of the second quarter of 1952 production will be raised to a regular monthly figure of 1,000 tons. Of the remaining 400 tons each month, which are not being exported to China, 80% is reserved for internal use in the DDR(2) and the rest is to be exported to Czechoslovakia.
3. The production of graphite and coal products at Lichtenberg is totally inadequate to meet the demands made by the DDR and the satellites. To meet this emergency, the projected Graphite Works Stargard(3) at Ringsdorf(4) on the Weichsel, which was never completed during the war, has been brought into production by the Poles, and at present employs approximately 200 workers. This plant has been in production for about nine months and is engaged principally in the production of carbon brushes. *possibly from Natural Graphite* *AK*
4. Because of shortages of raw material, the plant at Lichtenberg is at present unable to produce sufficient carbon for searchlights and motion picture projectors to meet the current requirements in the DDR. Great difficulty is being encountered in replacing stocks. Negotiations are at present under way for the importation of raw material.
5. Another serious bottleneck is the scarcity of carbon black for the production of carbon brushes. High-grade carbon black was formerly supplied by Degussa, but because of the current difficulties in interzonal trade, Degussa has been unable to deliver this since the middle of 1950. The Lichtenberg plant requires 30 to 40 tons of carbon black monthly over and above that which can be supplied from Oranienburg(5) and Piesteritz(6) in the DDR and has been receiving this

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quantity currently from Czechoslovakia and Rumania. The quality of used carbon black is not suitable for many of the higher grade products required. This applies particularly to the carbon brushes for the electric generators supplied by the Lichtenberg plant for Russia, Poland, Hungary, and Rumania.

6. To meet increased requirements the Lichtenberg plant is going to start operating a new press for the manufacture of rectifier anodes. This project has not as yet progressed beyond the planning stage.

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- (1) Comment: Available reference material indicates that Siemens Plania is now called the Elektro-Kohlewerke, Lichtenberg (SAG Kabel).

- (2) Comment: The 80% of the remaining 400 tons is stated to be insufficient to meet current orders in the DDR.

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- (3) Comment: The Graphite Works Starrgard is not identifiable in available reference material. There is a Starograd, also spelled Stargard, on the Wierzyca, a tributary of the Vistula (Weichsel) at Q54/D38.

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- (4) Comment: Not identifiable in available reference material.

- (5) Comment: Possibly the Kaltwalzwerk Oranienburg VEB (VVB WZ).

- (6) Comment: Possibly the Stickstoffwerk, Piesteritz (SAG Mineralduenger).

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